

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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Medical Facilities for PWs

1. Each PW Camp had a dispensary, staffed by one German physician and one Soviet female physician or feldscher. No PW was judged sick unless he had a fever. This decision was made by the Soviet physician. Patients with fever were isolated in a small 10-bed barracks in the camp for several days during which time pyramidon or other antipyretics were administered. Those requiring hospitalization were sent to a PW hospital. This hospital had 100 beds and served a population of 7,000 men. It was located about six kilometers east of Pervouralsk and consisted of two barracks made of stone, wood, and clay. It had an infectious diseases section which occupied one-half of the barracks, a surgical section, and services for neurology, roentgenology, and ENT. In general, the hospital was quite primitive. In addition to the German physicians, five Soviet physicians were also assigned to the hospital. All the Soviets were military personnel and three were women. Several nurses and feldscher were also on the staff. A small laboratory was in operation. A central PW hospital was located within the main administrative PW camp in Sverdlovsk (N 56-50, E 60-38) and was known as No. 1 Lazaret.

Medical Facilities for Civilians

2. Pervouralsk (N 56-54, E 59-58) had several hospitals, including an accident hospital and a children's hospital. No details were known concerning these except that all were of wooden barracks construction. A hospital for mental diseases was located to the east of Sverdlovsk. In addition to these facilities, the PWs constructed a hospital and polyclinic for the use of workers at the Stalin Pipe Factory, a cannon manufacturing plant. The hospital was finished in 1953. It was a three-story building of stone and stucco construction, 110 meters by 25 meters. Bed capacity

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was unknown. It was, however, well-constructed with parquet flooring, central heating, balconies, and outside decorative columns. The operating room was not open to the outside, and light was furnished by electricity. Details concerning the factory polyclinic are not known. These two buildings were to furnish services for the 3,000 workers at the factory and probably also for their families. These installations were built in a new section of Pervouralsk, known as Socialist City, on the southern edge of the town.

Drug Supply

3. Pervouralsk had no pharmaceutical factories. A drug supply depot was located in Sverdlovsk from which required items could be ordered. No details concerning the depot are known.

Diseases

4. Malaria did not occur in Pervouralsk, and no anophaline mosquitoes were observed. However, many cases of malaria existed in the Chelyabinsk section and in the swampy areas near the Ob River. Typhus did not occur; the disease had apparently been brought under control by the Soviets. Tuberculosis was widespread among the Soviet citizens. This situation was aggravated by poor hygienic habits, inadequate diet, and extremely crowded living conditions. Poliomyelitis was practically unknown in Pervouralsk, and infectious hepatitis did not occur in Pervouralsk. Infectious hepatitis, however, was allegedly widespread in the Crimea. Venereal diseases were rarely encountered. Individuals were severely punished when they contracted these diseases. First offenders were fined one month's pay; second offenders were liable to imprisonment, particularly if the disease had been concealed. Amoebic dysentery existed in the area, but bacillary dysentery was more common. Trachoma was unknown, but it had appeared in epidemic proportions in Minsk in 1949.
5. Typhoid and paratyphoid were not observed in the later years, although these diseases had been prevalent in the early postwar period. Dystrophy occurred only among the PWs, not among the civilians, although the diet of the population was unusually one-sided and low in protein. Scabies was very common. The civilian population suffered from a variety of skin diseases, attributed to poor hygienic habits and, possibly, to the poor quality of the fats eaten. Diphtheria was no more prevalent than in Germany, and influenza was not a serious problem. Tularemia, undulant fever, plague, and cholera did not appear in the region. Worm infestation, particularly ascariasis, was common. Santonin and oil of Chenopodium were regularly employed in treatment.

Animal Diseases

6. Swine erysipelas was very frequently reported in the area, but swine plague was not reported during the period covered by this report. The inhabitants had a great fear of its possible outbreak. Brucellosis did not occur and distemper occurred occasionally. Anthrax, known to the civilians as Sibirskaya yazva, was reported on several occasions. Hoof and mouth disease was present but appeared in a mild form and was not of much concern to the people. No rinderpest existed. Sheep suffered from a worm infestation, and cattle and sheep were subject to leeches.

Veterinary Affairs

7. Little information was available on veterinary affairs. Pervouralsk had a veterinary clinic which was extremely primitive. The cattle kolkhozy had veterinarians assigned to them, but the local people considered them to be of low caliber. No private practice was allowed to veterinarians in the area. There was no school for veterinary training in Pervouralsk. A veterinary school was located in Sverdlovsk,

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but no details concerning it were available.

Food

8. Recently, efforts were made to force the kolkhozy to produce more meat for the market. In order to meet the norms set up for meat, the farmers slaughtered many chickens to use their meat as a substitute for beef for the market. The government has recognized the country's need for more food and milk for civilian needs and has attempted to encourage the kolkhozy farmers in the area to produce more.

LIBRARY SUBJECT AND AREA CODES

3/9-02-0404                    9/54

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